

# Commercial



ESTABLISHED JULY 2, 1856.

HONOLULU, HAWAII TERRITORY, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1902.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## WOULD IMPORT LEPERS

Wilcox Was Before the Visiting Board.

## WILD STATEMENTS TO SENATORS

Accuses Board of Health of Vaccinating Hawaiians With the Germs of Leprosy.

Mr. Wilcox—4. That the leper colony at Kalaupapa on the Island of Molokai be taken under the care, control and maintenance of the Federal government as a reservation for leprosy persons under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, but that no leprosy persons other than those of the mainland of the United States and of this Territory be allowed on such reservation. Because we don't want lepers from the Philippine Islands—

Mr. Thurston—Do you want them to come from the United States?

Mr. Wilcox—In the United States there are only three hundred.

Mr. Thurston—You want them brought down here?

Mr. Wilcox—Brought down here. The whole thing up there—they get no care there. The last Legislature when they go up there find they have rotten salmon, rotten bread, rotten clothes and a store there built so that the Board of Health makes 10 per cent out of it.

Senator Mitchell—What are the findings of the Committee?

Mr. Wilcox—That is the report of the Committee? Each person was sworn and answered question, and this is the whole report of the Committee last Legislature and I know the fact.

Judge Humphreys—Isn't it a fact that that store is run over at Molokai so that merchants can unload self-worn goods onto this store?

Mr. Wilcox—They have always done it. I know some members of the Board of Health do that and send up bad things to the poor lepers and charge them full prices.

Judge Humphreys—Is that not the reason the local government wish to retain control?

Mr. Wilcox—I don't believe in the Board of Health being in business and I know, not this Board of Health but ones before, and I say political managers of the government here and the Board of Health do this. It is not the only objection. There is another objection. I say the natives dread this place being under the Board of Health. They have no confidence in the President of the Board of Health, the natives have not.

Since the beginning of the Board of Health, since the segregation of the lepers there, there have been about 40,000 and it is just the same today, 1000 every year. Never any decrease. They never mind, the people here, most of them. They look upon the doctor of the Board of Health and they think he vaccinates the children with leprosy, puts leprosy in their children. Parents here good and clean, the children vaccinated in the school and they turn out lepers. You can blame the doctors of the Board of Health. The lepers have no confidence in the present government. They think that place is kept up for the benefit of this Board of Health, for gouging one hundred dollars a year off the leper. To save all this trouble I believe it is the whole thing, the opinion there that the United States will see that the poor leper is well taken care of. They will build a hospital there and the United States is a big government, not like this one-horse concern here; and they will see that the poor leper is well taken care of. This is my belief. I know all the natives are scared of that place, scared of these people, scared of the Board of Health. When we have got a municipal government then we will have a Board of Health for the people, and not one appointed either by supporters of the government or political managers and all that. We can not blame them making money, they make money out of the leper, out of anything.

With its two sittings today will close the hearings of the Senatorial Commission, and from the indications the last phases of the inquiry will be as full of interest as have been any of the preceding ones.

Chairman Mitchell announced during the afternoon session yesterday that it

was the intention of the Commission to make its hearings of today the last ones. The mass of testimony must be digested and the members of the sub-committee must have some time to look over the grounds, viewing the city and its surroundings, looking at the harbor and the military reservations, so it has become necessary that the public meetings end.

That the ordinary investigations have reached a conclusion was indicated by the mass of testimony on varied subjects which was collected yesterday, and there can be little to come on the ordinary propositions of government or procedure. There will be some figures submitted from the land office and the men who are interested in the disposition of the public domain will have an inning.

The defalcation of Treasurer Wright has introduced a feature which will make the hearing have a new interest. The members of the Commission when they heard of the matter, at once decided that they would look deeply into the case, they having already been cognizant of the fact that there is no bond required of the official. In addition to Secretary Cooper, who is the acting treasurer, it is understood that Auditor Austin will be put on the stand, and that there will be a general overhauling of the monetary system of the Territory.

So that work may be hurried along, this morning's session at the Hawaiian Hotel will begin at 9 o'clock.

When the session was opened the first witness placed on the stand was George A. Davis. He began by telling of experiences on Maui and charged that Judge Kalua was incompetent, and that he had been told that he was corrupt. He made an attack upon Justice Perry and declared that two judges only were needed. He had signed the report of the executive committee of the Bar Association, but had changed his mind. He said the present administration had been in office for ten years and should be changed.

W. O. Smith defended Judge Kalua, saying he had been at all times a faithful judge and that he had shown great fidelity. He admitted that he had never known that he allowed it to interfere with his legal duties. He said that Judge Kalua should have a chance to defend himself and Chairman Mitchell said that a letter had been sent to Judge Kalua from Hilo. Finally Senator Mitchell read a series of charges against Judge Kalua, signed by Messrs. Coke, Kepoikai and Robertson, setting forth various charges of corruption and drunkenness, but Mr. Smith said he had no knowledge of any of the cases. It was said that in the event that the Judge did come here during the stay of the committee a copy of the charges would be sent to him and he would thus have a chance to defend himself.

Chief Justice Frear was given an opportunity to testify and he said that the custom of filling the supreme bench was not sui generis, citing certain states where the custom prevails. He said that during the past year there had been eighty decisions, with only five rendered with the aid of lawyers. He said there had been no disposition to change the law since its passage. There was some questioning during which Justice Frear got in an answer to show that the law was construed that the assistants thus called in could not fill vacancies. Senator Mitchell made a supposititious case, setting forth that there might arise a time when there would be two lawyers on the bench and the only justice might be taken ill or otherwise kept from the bench, when there would have to be a decision without a single justice. Chief Justice Frear said the system was objectionable but the question was what was the alternative.

### WILCOX ON MANY POINTS.

Delegate Robert W. Wilcox was the next witness and he furnished sensations for a few moments. He began by saying that he wished to call to the attention of the Commission some of the actions of the land office. He said that three natives, Senator Kalaupapa, N. W. Holi and Mrs. Kaahanaui, who had for years been living on crown lands had recently been dispossessed and their lands given to the Kapiolani estate, in the matter of

## WRIGHT SHORT NEARLY \$18,000



MISSING TREASURER WRIGHT.

## Secretary Cooper Takes Possession of His Office. Defaulter Confessed His Guilt on Tuesday But Promised Restitution.

William H. Wright, Territorial Treasurer, disappeared yesterday leaving a shortage in his cash of \$17,949.91. The missing official is supposed to have gone on the Alameda, though the police made a thorough search of the steamer just prior to her leaving without finding him and some of his friends insist that he has not left the city. The shortage is not in the Treasury Department proper, of which Registrar Henry Hapai is in charge, but in the Chinese fund which was specially deposited with the Treasurer.

The shortage was first made known Tuesday when Treasurer Wright of his own accord informed Secretary Cooper that he had made use of the Territory's money but that he would make restitution immediately. Governor Dole was notified, and it was agreed to allow the Treasurer until yesterday to square himself. When, however, he failed to meet Secretary Cooper at nine o'clock yesterday morning to make a settlement as he had agreed to do, Mr. Cooper became suspicious, and after waiting for half an hour informed the High Sheriff to keep a lookout for Wright. A search was made immediately for the missing treasurer, the Alameda being watched up to the time of her departure, and if Wright is aboard of her, he must have been securely hidden away by some friend. During the morning Secretary Cooper was placed in charge of the Treasury by Gov. Dole.

Following the failure of Wright to appear Secretary Cooper began an investigation of the Treasurer's account books, which was concluded shortly after six o'clock last evening. This showed the total cash in the treasury excepting special funds to be \$194,029.07, which is but four cents off, the shortage being entirely in the Chinese fund which was on special deposit with Treasurer Wright. This was the fund deposited with the government prior to annexation by the planters to insure the return to China of the laborers brought here under contract. The total amount which should have been on deposit is \$194,029.07, against which were drawn treasury warrants of \$131,674.54, leaving a balance according to the books of \$29,591.71. The actual cash found in the box in the safe to which only the Treas-

urer had the key, was \$11,601.80, leaving a shortage of \$17,949.91.

### SECRETARY COOPER'S STATEMENT.

"I was specially commissioned by Governor Dole yesterday as his representative to look into the accounts of Treasurer Wright," said Mr. Cooper last evening after the investigation of the matter had been completed. "Mr. Wright came to me yesterday and stated that he was short in his accounts, but gave every assurance of making up whatever deficiency there was. He stated the amount of shortage, but I do not remember his exact figures now. He was to have met me this morning at nine o'clock and straighten out the matter, and when he did not appear, naturally my suspicions were aroused and after waiting for half an hour I notified the High Sheriff. I immediately asked Registrar Hapai for a statement of the funds and cash on hand while he gave very promptly. In the latter part of the afternoon I began an investigation of the state of the funds. The Treasury funds were all accounted for, showing a deficiency of but four cents.

"In the Chinese fund which was on special deposit with Treasurer Wright the books showed:

Total Receipts	\$161,226.25
Treasury Warrants	131,674.54
Leaving a balance of	\$29,591.71
"I found cash amounting to \$11,601.80, leaving a deficiency in the account of \$17,949.91.	

"Mr. Hapai's account was found to be absolutely correct the cash on hand corresponding with the amount the books showed.

"The treasury funds were all accounted for. Under special deposits as follows:

Land Sales	\$39,976.80
Postal Savings Bank Account	2,270.18
Road Tax	33,480.60
Outstanding warrants 1888 and 1889	254.75
Total	\$75,982.33
Current Account, Silver	\$47,930.15
Gold	101,695.00
Drafts	52.85
Certificates	170.00
Mutilated Certificates	25.00
Debased Coin	139.75
Total	\$150,012.75
Cash Warrants	\$43,535.82
Interest Warrant	480.00
Cash Voucher	.50
Total	\$44,016.32
Showing a total of	\$194,029.07
The Bookkeeper's accounts show	194,029.11

"We also checked over the old gold and silver certificate account. The

total amount of gold certificates issued was \$255,000 which has all been redeemed but \$31.5, for which the cash was on hand. Silver certificates to the amount of \$312,000 were issued, all of which were redeemed excepting \$4,050, and all redeemed certificates were found to have been cancelled, the account being found correct.

"The Chinese fund in which the shortage was found was the money deposited by the planters to secure the passage of Chinese for their return to China, after the contracts with the planters had expired. When the United States Treasury Department took over the Postal Savings bond and liquidated it, this money was deposited by Wray Taylor, Commissioner of Immigration, in the First National Bank. About a year ago as Acting Governor I ordered the money turned over to the Treasury, holding that it was a fund over which the government had supervision. This money was specially in charge of Treasurer Wright and was kept separate from the money over which Registrar Hapai had control. It was kept in the safe, but in a separate box, to which Mr. Wright had the key. Mr. Hapai's accounts were found to be absolutely correct. The Auditor will be asked to go over the books of the Treasury Department tomorrow. As far as shown there appears to be no falsification of the books, the shortage being in the cash which should have been on hand."

### BOOKS ALL RIGHT.

The books of the Treasury Department are said to be correct. Deputy Auditor Meyers said last night before the shortage had become known, that the books of the Treasury Department correspond exactly with those of the audit office, and he was at a loss to say where the shortage could have occurred. The examination of the books will be begun this morning.

Secretary Cooper will be in charge of the Treasury under a special commission for the Governor, and former Superintendent J. A. McCandless may be called upon to assist in the straightening out of the affairs of the Public Works Department.

### GOVERNOR DOLE'S STATEMENT.

Governor Dole, when asked concerning Mr. Wright's disappearance, said:

"When we learned at 10 o'clock this morning that Mr. Wright could not be located, men were sent down to the Alameda to keep a close watch on the passengers and others going aboard. They did not see Mr. Wright nor hear anything of him. They probably missed him by a few minutes. The probabilities are that a coal passer or an employee in the lower part of the ship assisted him in concealing himself. I have no doubt but that he went away in the Alameda."

When asked if there was a shortage, the Governor replied in the affirmative, adding that he did not know the amount as the investigation of the books had not been completed.

"Was the Treasurer under bonds?"

"The Treasurer has never been under bonds," replied the Governor. "The only one under bonds is the Registrar of Public Accounts, as he is supposed to be the only man authorized to handle moneys. I believe now that it would be wise to provide for bonding the treasurer as well as his subordinates in office. There are times, I presume, when a subordinate officer would yield to the wishes of his superior in matters pertaining to money affairs, in which case he would naturally be responsible. All other communities, I understand, provide for the bonding of the treasurer. The officers of the Alameda were notified of the disappearance of Mr. Wright and assisted in the search of the ship."

High Sheriff Brown stated to an advertiser reporter that during the forenoon after ten o'clock his office was notified by Secretary Cooper to search for Treasurer Wright. Police were sent to the dock to keep a lookout for the official and he personally went there to watch proceedings. Shortly after twelve o'clock he boarded the vessel with Captain Harry Flint and for three quarters of an hour made a search. Both officers looked into each state-room, explored every deck, went into the stoker's hold and Captain Flint had peered into the ship's boats hanging at the davits. Nothing was seen of Wright and at ten minutes to one the Sheriff left the ship.

Cooke, who drives hack No. 60, on the 113 stand on Merchant street, stated to other drivers on the stand that about ten o'clock yesterday morning, he picked up Treasurer Wright in town and took him to the Inter-Island wharf. Later he said that Mrs. Wright was a dock passenger about noon.

Some one was reported to have said that they saw Wright in the second cabin of the Alameda between ten and eleven a. m.

Mrs. Wright said yesterday to the High Sheriff that Mr. Wright had left home in the morning as usual, and given no sign of any intent to leave. She said further that she did not see her husband during the day and knew nothing of the reported shortage.

There are rumors that Wright let it be supposed he would leave on the Alameda but is in hiding to catch the China.

## THE FIRE ALARM SOUNDED

Blaze Did \$5,000 Worth of Damage.

## LUCAS BROS. MILL ON FORT STREET

A Quick Fire in a Dangerous District Was Luckily Got Under Control.

Honolulu was visited by another fire shortly after ten o'clock last night. It is thought to have been of incendiary origin. The rear building, about a hundred by fifty feet in size, of the Honolulu Planing Mill, the property of Lucas Bros., was burned and considerable valuable machinery was thereby lost. The damage is estimated at between four and five thousand dollars, partly covered by insurance.

Shortly after ten o'clock a Chilean, employed as a fireman on the steamer Mikahala, was passing down Fort street. In passing the planing mill he states that he saw a man and a small fire near the rear building, but as he thought the man knew what he was doing and had a right to do it he passed down the street. Later he saw the man going up Fort street toward town. When he got to the custom house he turned around and saw the whole rear of the planing mill ablaze. He was undecided what to do and in the mean time some one else turned in an alarm. The firemen were on the spot quickly but by the time they had water on the structure it was a mass of fire. A small building next to it belonging to Hackfeld & Co., containing 800 barrels of lime and a lot of matches, was also ablaze. Both fires were quickly got under control, but not until considerable lumber, the planing mill tools, and the buildings themselves had been burned. The engine room of the mill was also damaged.

Mr. John Lucas, one of the members of the firm, stated last night that their whole plant was insured for \$8000. Only the rear portion burned, but he thought the loss on it would be about \$5000, and the insurance on that portion of the works would only partly cover the damage. He knew of no reason why anyone should set fire to the firm's buildings. The burned structure was a galvanized iron building and was located about fifty feet back from the street.

Had a breeze been blowing the fire would have been a serious one as there is a lot of valuable property in the neighborhood, including the custom house and lumber yards and coal piles.

### Okolehao Sui Found.

Tired, hungry, and sleepy, after a twelve hours' horseback ride across the Pali to Waimanalo, Deputy Sheriff Chillingworth, officers McDuffie and Renear and the Japanese special officer, Nebo, returned to the police station yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock after a successful raid on an okolehao still on the mountain side above Waimanalo. A Japanese prisoner was brought in, the only one of a hui which is said to run the still. Two bottles of genuine ti-root okolehao, a half gunny-sack of macerated ti root, some of it already prepared for mash, were brought in as evidence.

Last night the Republican Territorial Committee adopted resolutions roundly denouncing Wilcox's leper proposals.

YOU MUST REGISTER IF YOU EXPECT TO VOTE A FORMER REGISTRY DOES NOT COUNT.

(Continued on Page 2).